

**CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE
BOARD OF MANAGERS
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015**

STAFF REPORT

TO: BOARD OF MANAGERS

FROM: SHANA R. DAVIS-COOK, VILLAGE MANAGER 

DATE: 9/3/2015

SUBJECT: VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BETHESDA FIRE DEPARTMENT'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Background

The Bethesda Fire Department, Inc. (BFD) is a corporation which owns the firehouse (Station 6) and the land under the building located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and Bradley Boulevard. Station 6 is the first due station for and fire and emergency medical response to the portion of the Village located west of Connecticut Avenue. The firefighters that work at Station 6 are not volunteers, but are full-time Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service employees. The firehouse and the land are owned and managed by an all-volunteer board of directors for BFD. Several neighboring communities have designated representatives to serve on the BFD Board, including the Town of Chevy Chase and the Town of Somerset. The Board meets on the first Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the firehouse.

The Village has not officially designated a representative to serve on the BFD Board in many years. The BFD Board has recently been involved in the Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan re-write in order to seek increased development density of their property. The Village has sent a letter to the Planning Board opposing this rezoning due to the likely impacts increased development would have on local schools and roads, along with the negative effects from increased building heights immediately adjacent to residential homes and the extension of commercial zoning southward beyond the current limits at Bradley Boulevard.

With these ongoing discussions taking place, it is important for the Village to be represented on the Bethesda Fire Board to ensure first responder services to the communities the department serves remain the department's primary focus.

Proposed Village Representative

Ms. Patricia Baptiste of Grafton Street has volunteered to serve as the Village's representative to the Bethesda Fire Board.

Draft Motion

I move to appoint Ms. Patricia Baptiste of Grafton Street to serve as the Village's representative to the Bethesda Fire Board.